

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 L-03 IO-14 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

/143 W

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R 011546Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6096

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 0392

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HO, CS

SUBJECT: HONDURAN PRESIDENT LOPEZ VISITS
PRESIDENT FIGUERES

1. THE FEBRUARY 1 MORNING PRESS IN SAN JOSE
FEATURES THE STORY OF PRESIDENT LOPEZ' VISIT
TO PRESIDENT FIGUERES. THE STORY STRESSED
THIS WAS NOT AN OFFICIAL VISIT BUT AN INFORMAL
ONE. LOPEZ SAID HE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO
HONDURAS FEBRUARY 1. HE ANNOUNCED HE WAS NOT
PROCEEDING TO PANAMA SINCE HIS OFFICIAL VISIT
TO PANAMA WAS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 11.

2. PRESIDENT LOPEZ ACCOMPANIED PRESIDENT
FIGUERES ON THE LATTER'S WEEKLY VISIT OF
BUSINESS SITES AND HIS WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE.
AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT LOPEZ REPLIED TO REPORTERS'
QUESTIONS AS FOLLOWS:

A. ON THE HONDURAN/ALVADORAN DISPUTE,
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LOPEZ SAID THAT UNFORTUNATELY THE TALKS

WHICH TOOK PLACE IN MEXICO LAST DECEMBER WERE NOT ABLE TO REACH ANY AGREEMENT. HE STATED THAT HE HOPED THAT WITHIN A SHORT TIME NEW CONVERSATIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE AND A DEFINITIVE SOLUTION FOUND. THE PROBLEM, HE SAID, HAD VARIOUS ASPECTS BUT THE PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF DISCORD WAS THE QUESTION OF THE BOUNDARIES. HONDURAS WAS PREPARED TO GO TO AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL BUT APPARENTLY SALVADOR WAS NOT. IN ANY CASE, HE SAID, THE DESIRE OF HIS GOVERNMENT WAS TO ARRIVE AT A TOTAL SOLUTION ONCE AND FOR ALL. PRESIDENT FIGUERES INSERTED AT THIS POINT THAT AFTER SUCH A GRAVE INCIDENT AS THE HONDURAN/SALVADORAN WAR, IT WAS TO BE EXPECTED THAT RESOLUTION WOULD BE DIFFICULT. HOWEVER, BOTH THE PRESIDENTS OF SALVADOR AND HONDURAS, HE WAS CONVINCED, WANTED TO LOWER THE TEMPERATURE AND REACH AN AGREEMENT.

B. ON THE COMMON MARKET, LOPEZ SAID THAT HONDURAS BELIEVED A RESTRUCTURING WAS NECESSARY. ALTHOUGH AGREEMENTS IN THIS REGARD HAD BEEN REACHED PRIOR TO THE HONDURAN/SALVADORAN WAR, NOTHING HAD HAPPENED. HE HOPES THAT A TRUE RESTRUCTURING CAN BE ACHIEVED.

C. RE DIPLOMATIC/COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, LOPEZ SAID QUOTE HONDURAS WILL ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC/COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH ANY COUNTRY WITH WHICH IT DEEMS IT CONVENIENT UNQUOTE.
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